

NEW X-MEN

ISSUE 45



RATED T+



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\$2.99 US \$3.05 CAN

MESSIAH COMPLEX

chapter eight

KYLE/YOST **MARVEL** RAMOS

MESSIAH COMPLEX

CHAPTER EIGHT

NEW X-MEN



RATED T+



\$2.99 US \$3.05 CAN

MARVEL
VARIANT
EDITION

45

KYLE
YOST
RAMOS



After M-Day, mutantkind neared extinction. Once hailed as humanity's replacement, it appeared mutants, now reduced to a few hundred, would fade into oblivion. But a new mutant baby has arrived, the first since M-Day, and with it, hope for mutantkind.

Previously in MESSIAH COMPLEX...

On the day of its birth the new mutant baby was kidnapped. The X-Men discovered that it was one of their own, the rogue mutant Cable, who took the child. Now, Cable is on the run in Canada and Cyclops has dispatched X-Force, his covert squad of black-ops X-Men, to help recapture the baby – even at the cost of Cable's life.

Meanwhile, one of the duplicates of Jamie Madrox, the Multiple Man, has traveled to the future along with Layla Miller to uncover secrets about the mutant baby. In the future in which they land, all mutants are imprisoned in camps and the local authorities quickly round up Madrox and Layla.

Meanwhile, Lady Deathstrike and her mercenary Reavers, who nearly killed a group of Xavier Institute students, have ambushed Cable and hope to kill the baby at the behest of the Purifiers, a church of mutant-hating zealots.

CHAPTER EIGHT:

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Studio F's Edgar Delgado: *Colorist*

Dave Sharpe: *Letterer*

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Axel Alonso: *Executive Editor*

Joe Quesada: *Editor in Chief*

Dan Buckley: *Publisher*

Cover A by: Finch, Miki, Keith

Cover B by: Simones Bianchi & Peruzzi

X ALBERTA, CANADA.

THE END
IS NEAR,
CABLE.





YOUR
END.

YOU DIE
NOW, ALONG
WITH THE
CHILD.

YOU FOUGHT
WELL, THOUGH.
IF YOU WOULD
LIKE, I WILL MAKE
YOUR DEATHS
QUICK.

WHAT DO YOU
CARE ABOUT THIS,
DEATHSTRIKE?
WHAT DO YOU
CARE ABOUT THE
PURIFIERS?

THE CHILD'S
BIRTH WAS
FORETOLD.

FORETOLD
BY THE
REVEREND
WILLIAM
STRYKER.

WILLIAM TOLD
ME HE WOULD
HAVE NEED OF
ME TWICE...

ONCE
WHILE HE WAS
ALIVE...



...AND ONCE
AFTER HIS DEATH.
HE TOLD ME OF
THE MUTANT
ANTICHRIST. AND
HE ASKED ME
TO KILL IT.

NOW I
FULFILL MY
VOW.



I GUESS HE
DIDN'T MENTION
TO LOOK BEHIND
YOU.

YURIKO!



**SHEEPSHEAD BAY,
MUTANT RELOCATION
CAMP.**

**80 YEARS
FROM NOW.**

WELL, YOU
HAVE TO ADMIT...
THIS IS WHERE
WE WANTED
TO GO.

I WANTED
TO CHECK IT
OUT, LAYLA...
NOT DIE
INSIDE IT.



KEEP
MOVING.



YOU WON'T DIE, JAMIE.
AND EVENTUALLY YOU'LL
FORGET THE PAIN.

WHAT?

LAYLA,
WHAT DO YOU
KNOW?

I KNOW I
STILL HAVEN'T
SEEN A SINGLE
MUTANT SINCE
WE'VE BEEN
HERE.

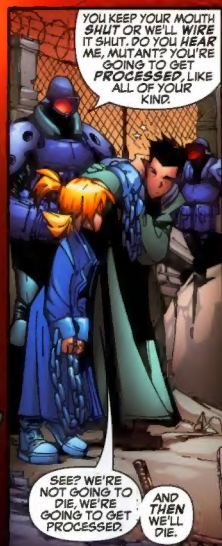


WHERE IS
EVERYONE?
WHERE ARE
YOU TAKING
US?



THOK!

UHNN!



YOU KEEP YOUR MOUTH
SHUT OR WE'LL WIRE
IT SHUT. DO YOU HEAR
ME, MUTANT? YOU'RE
GOING TO GET
PROCESSED LIKE
ALL OF YOUR
KIND.

SEE? WE'RE
NOT GOING TO
DIE, WE'RE
GOING TO GET
PROCESSED.

AND
THEN
WE'LL
DIE.

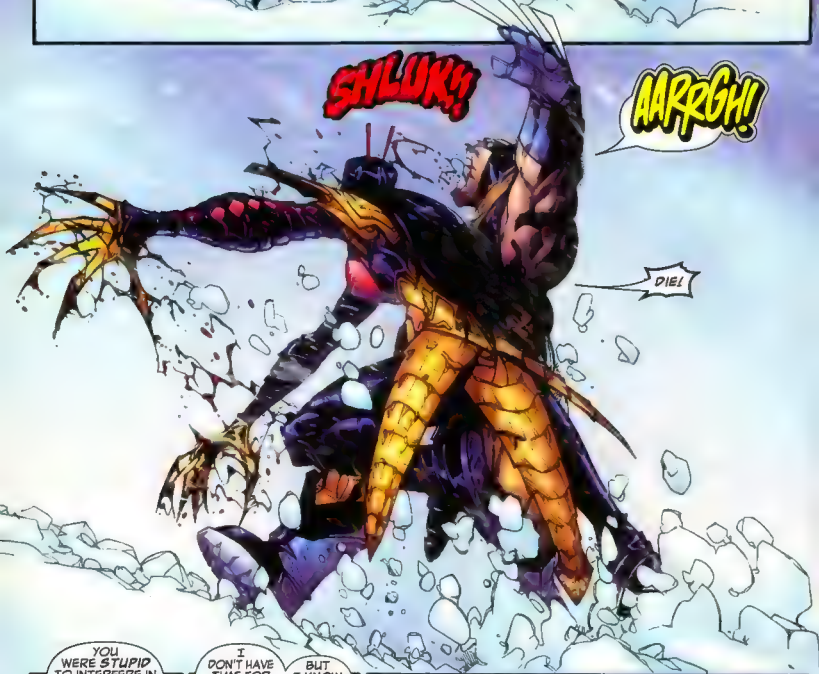






DAMMIT, CABLE, YOU MOVE TOO GOOD FOR AN OLD MAN...

LOGAN-SAN...



SHLUK!

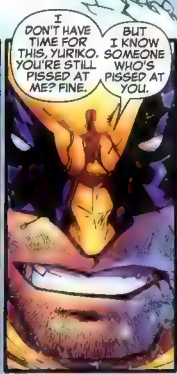
AARRGH!

DIE!



YOU WERE STUPID TO INTERFERE IN THIS. YOU HAD LONGER TO LIVE UNTIL I REACHED YOU.

NOW YOU DIE HERE, WITH THE CHILD.



I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS, YURIKO. YOU'RE STILL PISSED AT ME? FINE.

BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO'S PISSED AT YOU.



KNOCK YOURSELF OUT, X.



NEW YORK STATE.

**PREDATOR X
CAN FEEL IT.**

**THE PRESENCE. IT
IS ON THE MOVE.**

**BUT THE HUNGER
MUST BE FED NOW.**

**PREDATOR X
HAS HUNTED
AND FED, AND
WITH EACH
FEEDING, IT
GROWS.**

**BUT WITH THE
GROWTH COMES A
RENEWED HUNGER.**

**THE HUNGER
WILL NOT WAIT.**

**THERE ARE MUTANTS
MUCH CLOSER THAN
THE ONE IT WANTS,
THE PRESENCE IT SO
DESIRES.**

THE XAVIER INSTITUTE.

AND THEY WILL
DO FOR NOW.

TWO
PUNCTURED
LUNGS, A
NICKED
AORTA.

A SHREDDED
DIAPHRAGM, A
SEVERED RIB, AND
NOW, MINUS A
SPLEEN, BUT
HELLION IS
ALIVE.

FOR HOW
LONG, I DON'T
KNOW.

WHAT
HAPPENS
NOW?

WE TAKE A
BREATH. THEN I
CHECK ON NIGHT-
CRAWLER, WHO'S IN
ABOUT AS GOOD
A CONDITION.

AND WE ALL
PRAY ELIXIR
WAKES UP.

THIS
IS ALL MY
FAULT.



I WAS SO ANGRY. I WANTED TO HURT THE PURIFIERS... WE WEREN'T READY.

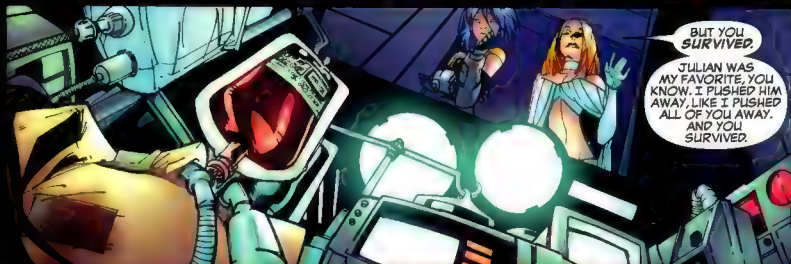
THEY ALMOST DIED BECAUSE OF ME, JULIAN...

...IS ALIVE.



AND HAD YOU STAYED HERE, SURGE... HE MIGHT NOT BE. NONE OF YOU MIGHT BE.

YOU ALL MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED BY THE SENTINELS, JUST LIKE SO MANY OF MY STUDENTS WERE.



BUT YOU SURVIVED.

JULIAN WAS MY FAVORITE, YOU KNOW. I PUSHED HIM AWAY, LIKE I PUSHED ALL OF YOU AWAY. AND YOU SURVIVED.



WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW, NO ONE SAW COMING. YOU WERE BLINDSIDED. GET OVER IT. WE ALL WERE.

THE TRICK IS TO SURVIVE IT THE FIRST TIME, AND NOT LET IT HAPPEN A SECOND.

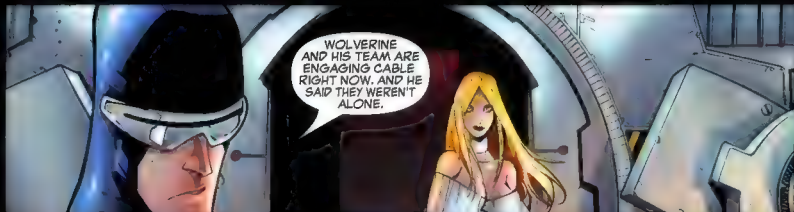
WHY DID YOU DO THIS TO ME? WHY DID YOU PICK ME TO LEAD THE TEAM?



BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D PROTECT THEM, NO MATTER WHAT.

EVEN FROM ME.

DO THAT NOW.

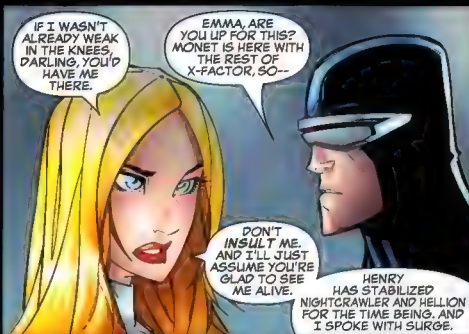


WOLVERINE
AND HIS TEAM ARE
ENGAGING CABLE
RIGHT NOW. AND HE
SAID THEY WEREN'T
ALONE.



THE MARAUDERS
ARE STILL OUT THERE.
THE PURIFIERS ARE STILL
OUT THERE. WE HAVE TO BE
THERE TO BACK WOLVERINE
UP WHEN HE TAKES
POSSESSION OF
THE BABY.

WE'RE
LEAVING IN
ONE MINUTE.
PEOPLE.

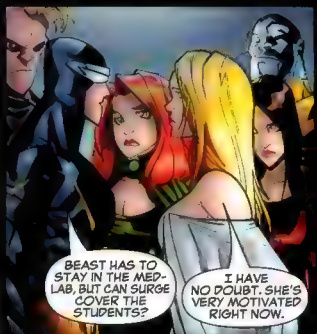


IF I WASN'T
ALREADY WEAK
IN THE KNEES,
DARLING, YOU'D
HAVE ME
THERE.

EMMA, ARE
YOU UP FOR THIS?
MONET IS HERE WITH
THE REST OF
X-FACTOR, SO--

DON'T
INSULT ME,
AND I'LL JUST
ASSUME YOU'RE
GLAD TO SEE
ME ALIVE.

HENRY
HAS STABILIZED
NIGHTCRAWLER AND HELLION
FOR THE TIME BEING, AND
I SPOKE WITH SURGE.



BEAST HAS TO
STAY IN THE MED-
LAB, BUT CAN SURGE
COVER THE
STUDENTS?

I HAVE
NO DOUBT. SHE'S
VERY MOTIVATED
RIGHT NOW.



WOLVERINE
INSULTS ME...
A CHILD?

HE SEEKS
TO SHAME ME.
BUT YOU?

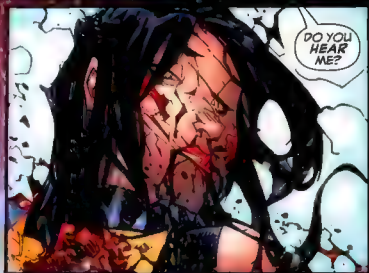


YOU THINK
YOURSELF MY
EQUAL? I AM LADY
DEATHSTRIKE,
DAUGHTER OF
LORD DARK
WIND!

YOU ARE
NOTHING!



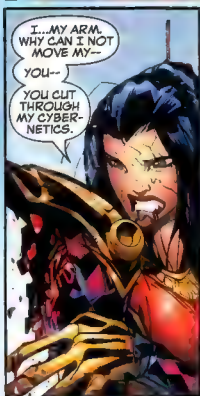
AND YOUR
ARROGANCE
WILL COST YOU
YOUR LIFE.



DO YOU
HEAR
ME?



YOU ARE
NOT EVEN
FIGHTING.





YOU
DESERVE TO
BURN, YOU FOUL
MONSTERS.

BUT
THAT'S
NOT UP
TO ME.

YOU'RE RIGHT
TO BE A GOD-
FEARING WOMAN,
RAHNE SINCLAIR.
ALL HELLSPAWN
SHOULD BE.



OH, YES...
WE KNOW YOU,
"WOLFSBANE."

REVEREND
CRAIG TOLD US
ALL ABOUT YOU.



WHAT?
WHAT DID
YOU SAY?

HOW
DO YOU
KNOW--



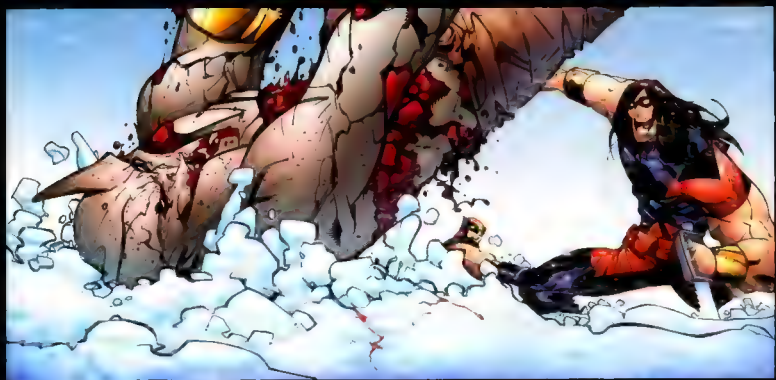
BURRN
BURRN
BURRN
NOLL



I FEAR
NO EVIL.













CABLE!!



+SNFF+

HE'S BACK-
TRACKING THE
WAY WE CAME.
WHY WOULD
HE--

DAMMIT.

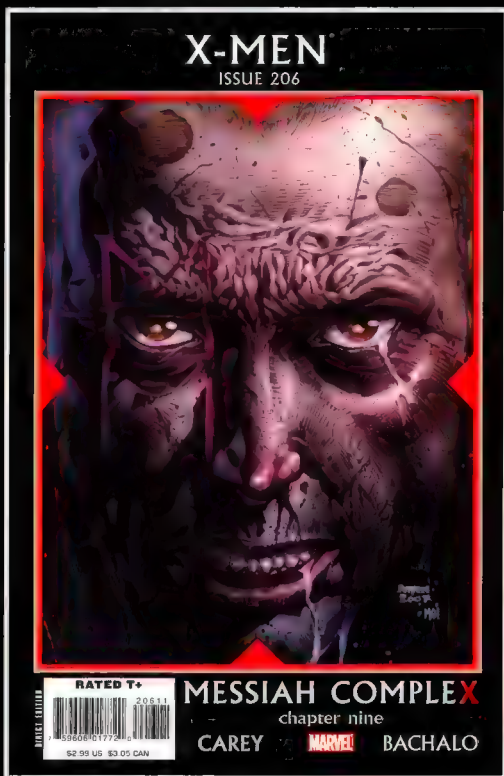
PRMMMMMMBLL



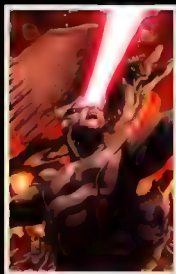
TO BE CONTINUED IN X-MEN 206

X-MEN: MESSIAH COMPLEX

CHAPTER 9



NEXT WEEK
MADROX GETS MARKED
CABLE REACHES HIS DESTINATION
A TRAITOR REVEALED



VARIANT COVER

FURY'S FILES

Discovered in a decommissioned S.H.I.E.L.D. safehouse, below is a list of little-known facts about the S.H.I.E.L.D. Most Wanted that Nick Fury had personally collected to be used or leveraged when necessary.



Knowing that Apocalypse would one day rule the world, Kang the Conqueror traveled back to ancient Egypt in an attempt to raise the young orphan as his own and become his master. When his plan failed, Kang tried to enslave and kill the Egyptian, inadvertently causing the transformation of En Sabah Nur into Apocalypse and triggering the manifestation of his mutant abilities.

Although Doctor Doom is his title, Victor von Doom does not have a college degree.

In addition to the Scarlet Witch, Quicksilver, and Polaris, Magneto also had another child before these, Anya, who died when she was a baby.

The Kingpin isn't fat - that's all muscle!

Thanos is obsessed with Death and has repeatedly attempted to prove his love for her by trying to destroy all life in the universe.

Loki is not an Asgardian, but the son of a Frost Giant, the ancient enemies of the Asgardians.

While battling Captain America in World War II, the Red Skull was buried under the rubble of a bombed building and believed to be dead. However, after being discovered by Hydra decades later, it was revealed that the Nazi leader had actually been in suspended animation as a result of exposure to an experimental gas.

Ultron has created two mates: Jocasta, based on the Wasp, and Alkhema, based on Mockingbird. Both rejected him.

Magneto is a survivor of the Nazi holocaust. The number tattooed on his arm in Auschwitz was 214782.

Fin Fang Foom is actually an alien navigator, whose name translates to "He Whose Limbs Shatter Mountains and Whose Back Scrapes the Sun."

M.O.D.O.K. is an actual man, named George Tarleton.

Doc Octopus once dated Aunt May, unaware of her connection to Spider-Man.

Taskmaster was hired to train John Walker as the new Captain America by the U.S. Government when Steve Rogers quit.

Before becoming a mercenary, Bullseye was on track to becoming a major league baseball pitcher, but one day he became bored when pitching a no-hitter and killed the batter with his last pitch of the game.

Doom has a distant cousin named Dr. Bob Doom. A dentist from Connecticut, he once tried to create his own kingdom out of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.



WHAT IF?



CIVIL WAR

ED BRUBAKER

KEVIN GREVIOUX

CHRISTOS GAGE

MARKO DJURDJEVIC

GUSTAVO

HARVEY TOLIBAO

A MARVEL COMICS EVENT IN ONE PART

COVER BY MARC SILVESTRI

WRAPAROUND COVER
BY MARKO DJURDJEVIC

DECEMBER 2007

MARVEL[®]

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LOOK WHO'S TALKING!

COMIC BOOK WRITER BRIAN REED



MARVEL: So... you're a Skrull? ...Skrull?

BRIAN REED: If you love what I've been writing, then no, I'm not a Skrull. If you don't love it, then your excuse is that I'm a low-down dirty Skrull.

MARVEL: You've been working on *NEW AVENGERS: ILLUMINATI* with Bendis, so is it safe to say you do know who is a Skrull?

BRIAN REED: I know Bendis likes to paint his head green and run around in a Super Skrull costume, including a big foam Thing fist.

MARVEL: With the recent announcement of *SECRET INVASION: THE INFILTRATION*, it looks like a number of books you work on are laying the groundwork for the invasion; both Marvel's -- Captain and Ms. Any reason why the Skrulls seem to be targeting these two?

BRIAN REED: Oh, there are all kinds of reasons the Skrulls would be interested in each of them. She's in charge of the Mighty Avengers-- Earth's greatest super team. He's pretty much single-handedly responsible for undoing the Skrulls' entire plan in the Kree/Skrull war. Because of that interest, both the Marvels are key players in the Secret Invasion.

MARVEL: Captain Marvel's return is not exactly what it seemed. You've said he is going to die, it's just a matter of if he will die here or get back to his own time. What dangers lie in him dying now?

BRIAN REED: All of time and space collapsing around your ears,

which makes a heck of a lot of noise, and tends to result in mass death and destruction.

MARVEL: Is that part of the Skrulls' plan?

BRIAN REED: Death and destruction? You bet.

MARVEL: Ms. Marvel's leading the greatest team in the Initiative right now, the Mighty Avengers, in addition to her own team. Surely SHE'S not a Skrull, is she?

BRIAN REED: A shameless plug now as I mention that the last page of Ms. Marvel #24 (and issue #25-27) will answer that question for you.

MARVEL: What about the members of her new team? They seemed to come at a rather convenient time, didn't they?

BRIAN REED: Machine Man would say something rude if he were here.

MARVEL: Will the Captain and Carol meet up, since you write both?

BRIAN REED: Yep. She's in the pages of the Captain Marvel mini-series.

MARVEL: And what of Mary-Vell's son, Teddy "Hulking" Altman? Will he meet his father? There must be some serious ramifications to that?

BRIAN REED: *Young Avengers Presents #2* is all about the moment that Teddy meets the father he thought was dead, and Captain Marvel gets to decide if he believes Teddy is really his son or not. Mar-Vell's been out of circulation for a few years, so it really is a bit of a shock for him to have this kid show up, and know intimate details about Mar-Vell's... intimate details.

MARVEL: Finally, give us a tease here -- we know that Bendis has been planning this story for 5 years, and that other writers have been in on it for a while now too. Are any of the characters you have written in the past year, or are currently writing, Skrulls?

BRIAN REED: Three of the characters I've worked with in the past year are really Skrulls. I think all three of them will come as total surprises, but I've tried to lay groundwork with each of them that keeps the reveals from being "cheap." The real surprise is that I reveal someone is actually a Kree! While the rest of Marvel goes one way, I run the other!



'Nuff Said!

Incredible.



HULK

A new ongoing series.

Jeph Loeb • Ed McGuinness

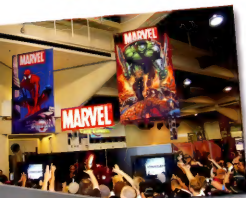
January 2008

MARVEL
YOUR UNIVERSE

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QUESTIONS THAT NEED ANSWERS!

WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE COMIC CONVENTION EXPERIENCE??



"I walked into a room by mistake and DeForest Kelley was there, waiting to make an appearance. This was, of course, before he died. I guess it would have been more memorable if it had been after..."

- **MARC GUGGENHEIM** - **Writer**

(Amazing Spider-Man, Wolverine, Marvel Comics Presents)

"Well, I was mistaken for Jill Thompson once. That was pretty memorable. Admittedly it was in Spain, and the guy who was doing the mistaking had no idea that Jill was a female name. So it's less damning than it sounds, but still, you know... And having Larry Niven come up to me on the booth at SCCC to tell me he enjoyed reading Lucifer. That also sticks in my mind for some reason."

- **MIKE CAREY** - **Writer**

(X-Men, Ultimate Fantastic Four)

"I've had a few. I saw two guys get in a fight in front of me one time over who would win, Thor or Hulk. They were actually screaming at each other so my friend and I stopped to watch, because it was hilarious. Then they came to blows and it really wasn't very funny. We were about to break it up when the convention security came and intervened. Then it got funny again as they were screaming "THOR!" and "HULK!" at each other as they were dragged away. That would probably top my list."

- **ROBERT KIRKMAN** - **Writer**

(Marvel Zombies II, Ultimate X-Men)

"A San Diego Comic Con, where I was walking through a hotel lobby and came to a halt. Sitting there, not far away, were Stan Lee and Jack Kirby, close into each other, involved in a lengthy and what seemed friendly enough chat. I just stood there and watched these two greats for a few moments, wondering what it was they were discussing, and then went on my way."

- **PETER DAVID** - **Writer**

(X-Factor, She-Hulk)

"During my first U.S. Con (Megacon 2000) in Florida, I was standing in the urinals, doing what I went in there for, when I glanced over to my left side. Standing next to me was a Klingon; I turned and there was another to my right. "K'Plah", they both said. "Nice B'atleths," I replied. Of course only Star Trek fans will get the joke and I now have clearly revealed myself to be almost as sad. I did once contemplate buying a Star Trek uniform, but fortunately saw sense before that decision could haunt me for the rest of my life."

- **BRYAN HITCH** - **Artist**

(Ultimates, Fantastic Four)

"Drinking warm adult beverages and playing dominoes for hours with Peter "Chewbacca" Mayhew and Jeremy "Boba Fett" Bulloch at DragonCon years back."

- **C.B. CEBULSKI** - **Writer**

(Loners, Fairy Tales, Wolverine)

"I was so starstruck and just excited to see one of the biggest guys in comics, Rob Liefeld, a few years back. We had a very brief encounter and he was very nice and all. I was very nervous and awestruck when the goodbyes came and I called him "Todd."

- **LEINIL YU** - **Artist**

(New Avengers, Secret Invasion)

"The fateful day I ran into Joss Whedon at the San Diego Comic Con, right as news of Grant Morrison leaving X-Men hit the airwaves."

- **JOE QUESADA** - **Marvel Editor-in-Chief, Artist**

(Amazing Spider-Man)

NOW YOU KNOW!

Megan



Scans by TheRain

THE MINUTEMEN